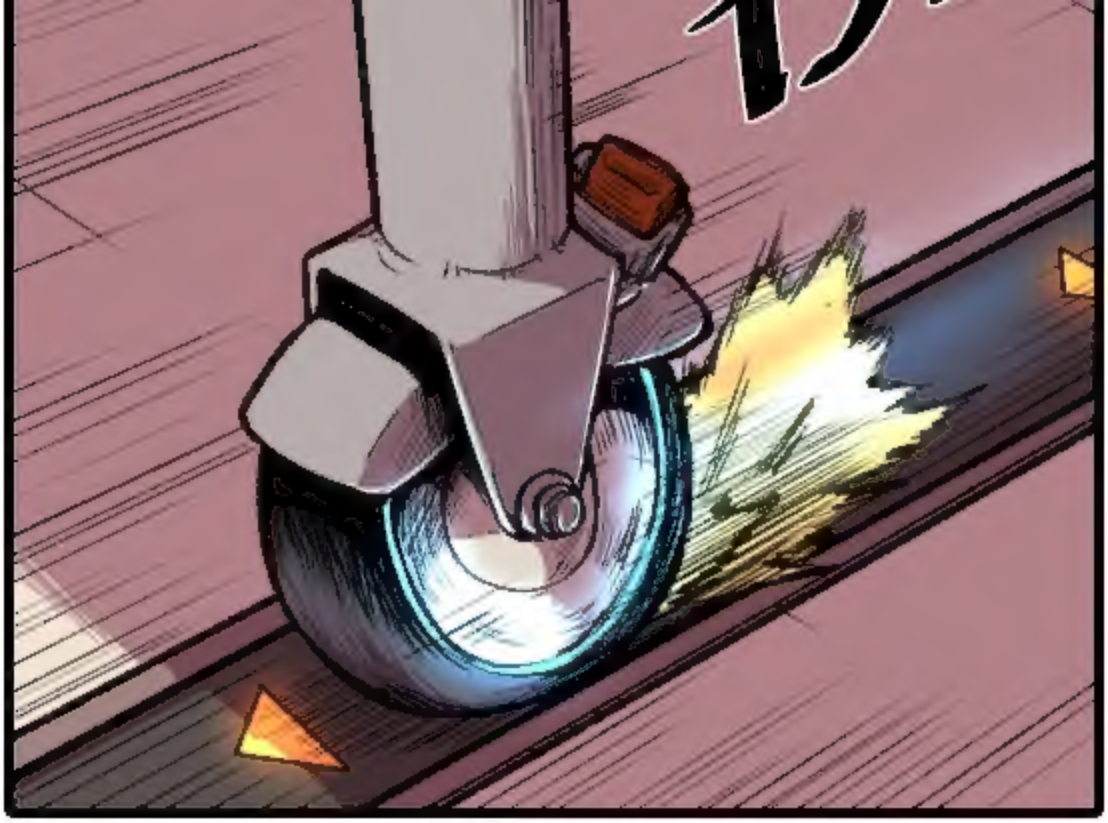
This is a work of fiction.
Names, characters, businesses, places,
events, locales, and incidents are either the
products of the author's imagination
or used in a fictitious manner.
Any resemblance to actual persons,
living or dead, or actual events
is purely coincidental.

WARNING

BLOOD & GORE

TUTUTUTUTU

SRRR



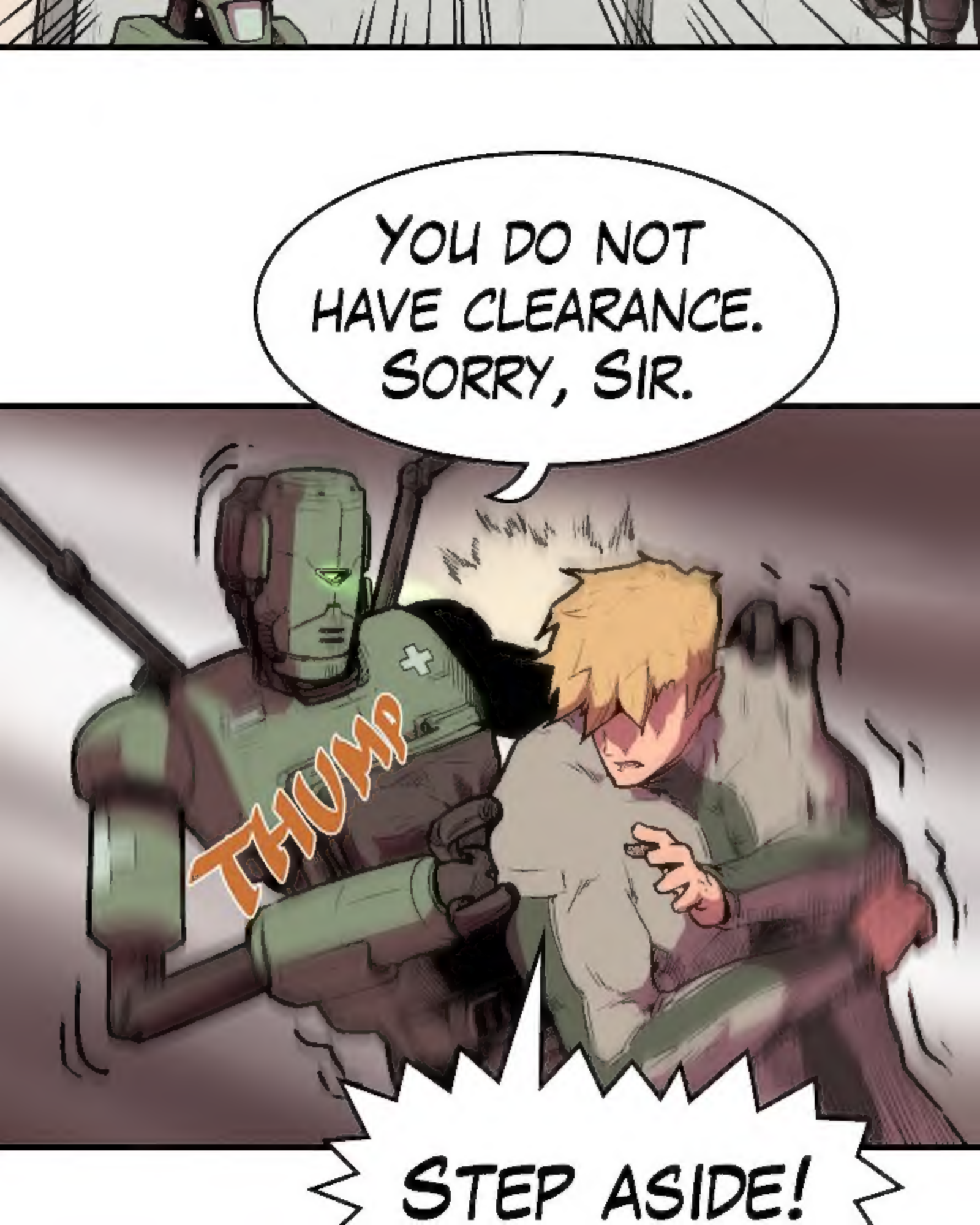
CAPTAIN!

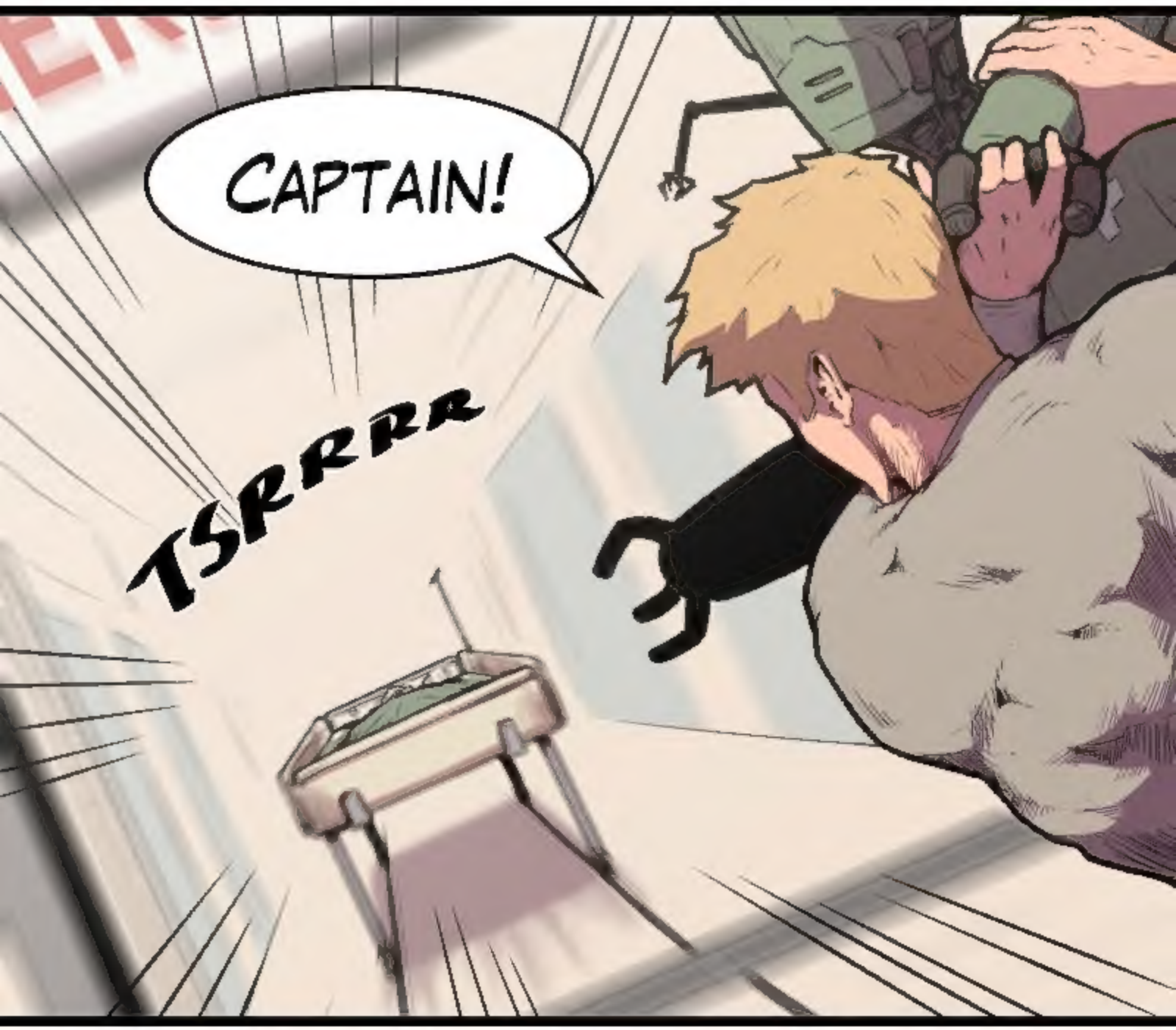
TAT

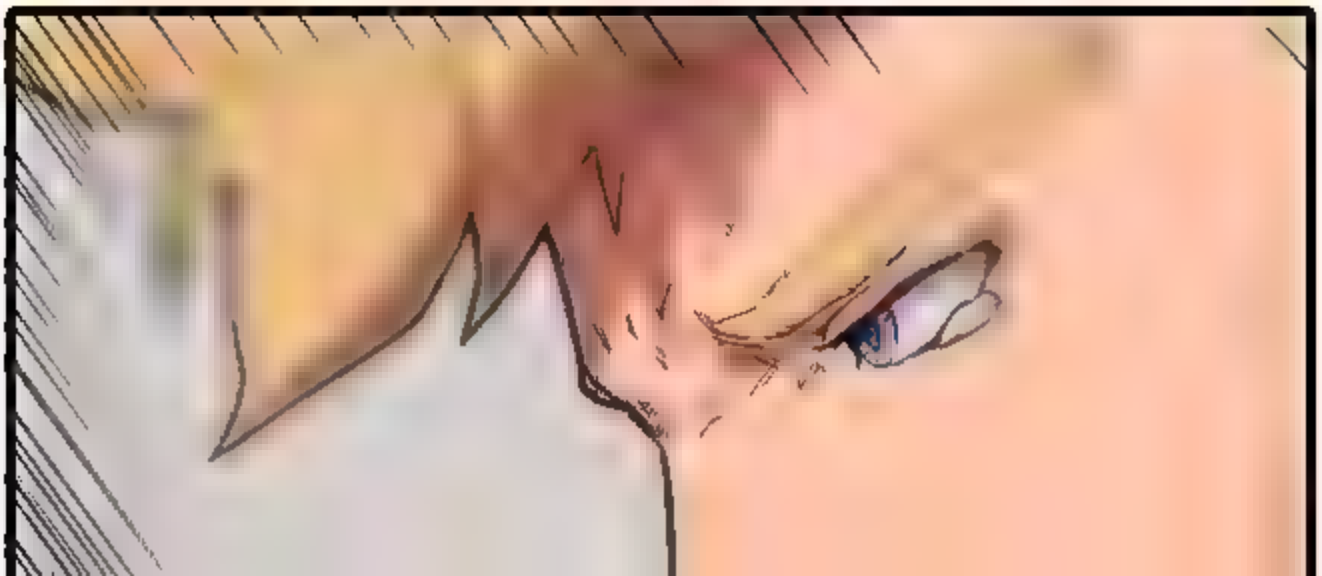
TAT
TAT

TSRRR
EMERGENCY

SORRY, AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY BEYOND THIS POINT.
EMERGENCY

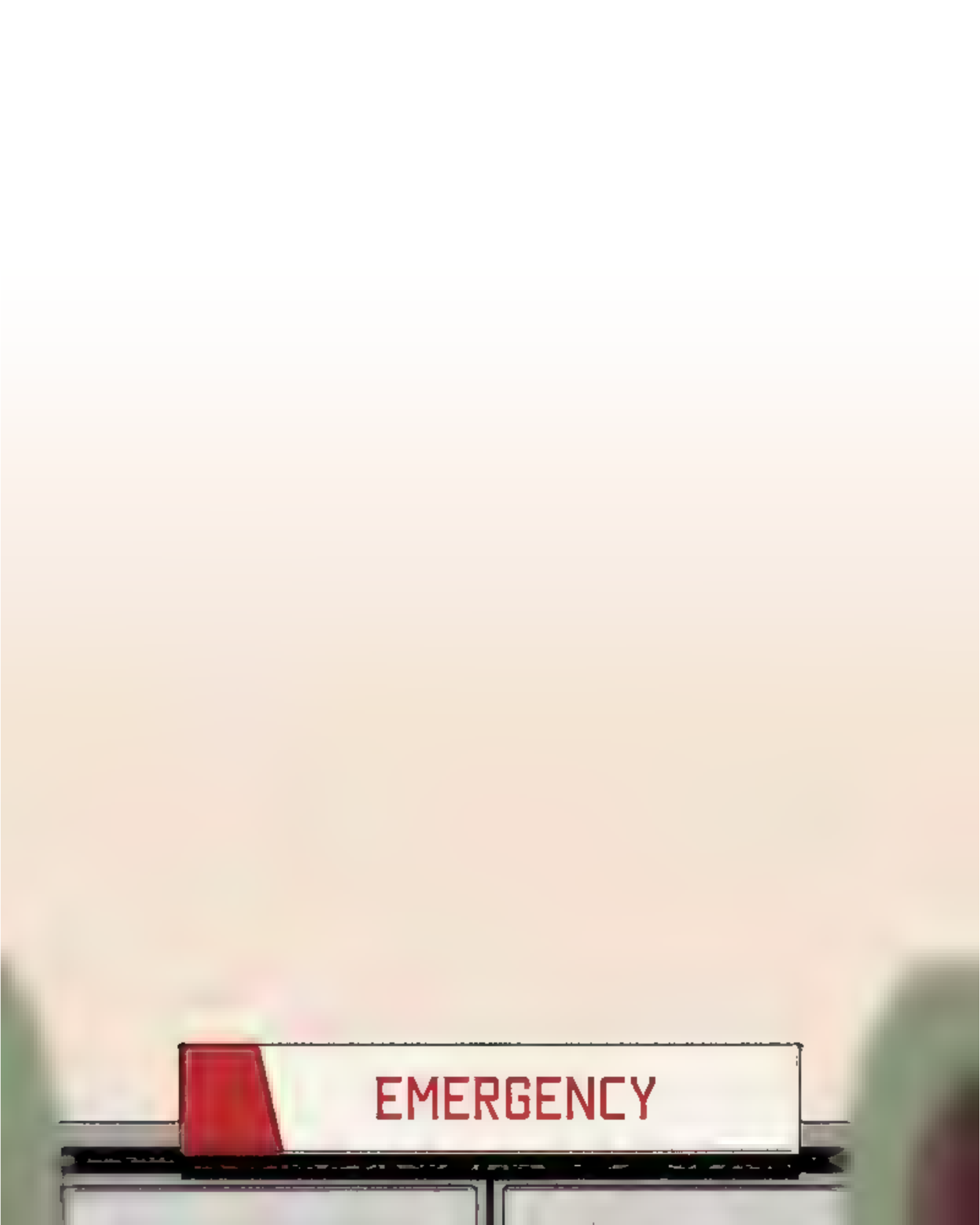

YOU DO NOT HAVE CLEARANCE. SORRY, SIR.
THUMP
STEP ASIDE!


CAPTAIN!
TSRRRR



CAPTAIN!
WAKE UP!
SHINING

CLANK


EMERGENCY

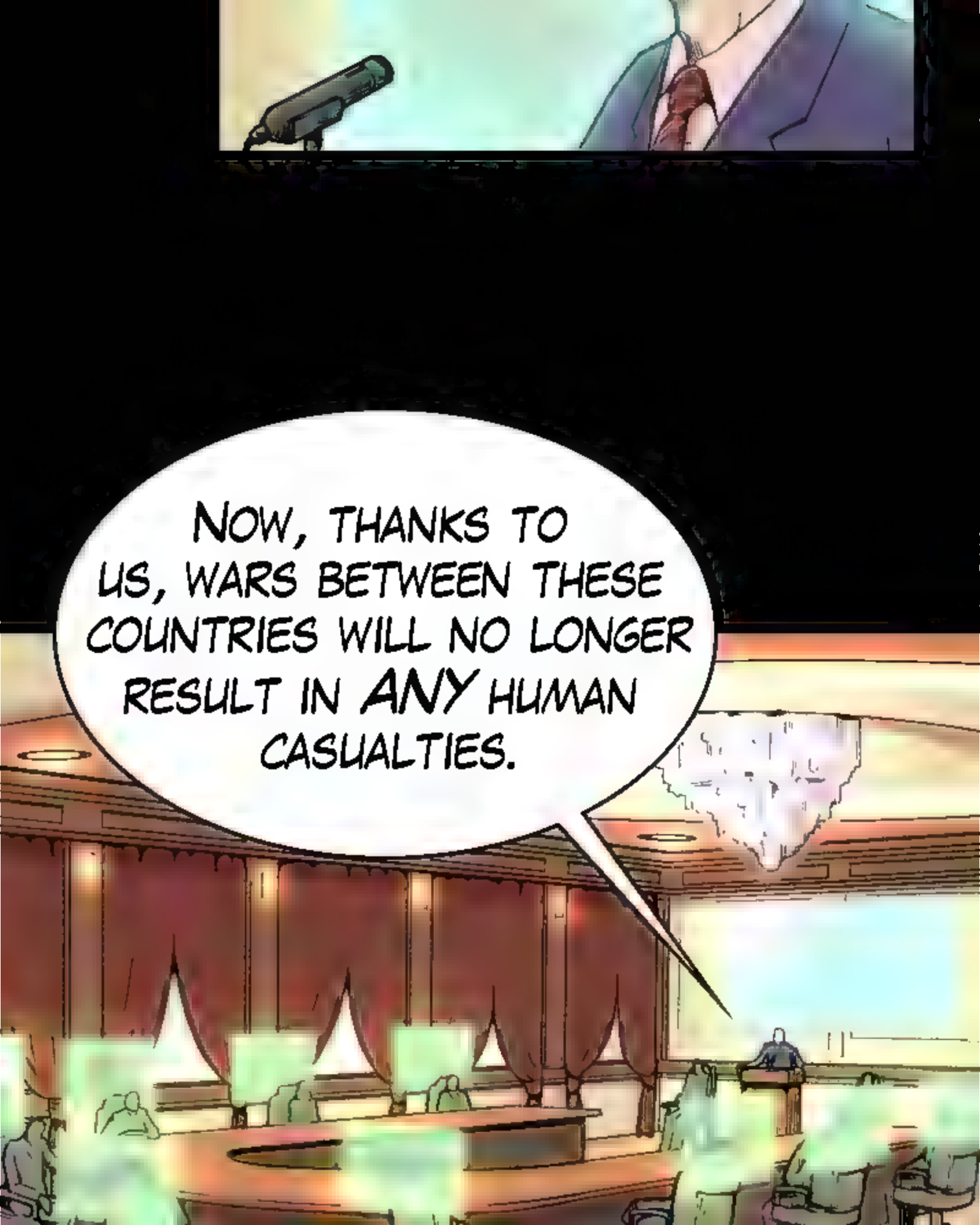
...FUCK!

BLOODLESS WARS

ART / STORY by Tovon
EDITED by H.B. KLEIN

EP 004

APPROXIMATELY 25% OF ALL COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED WITH OUR SYSTEM.

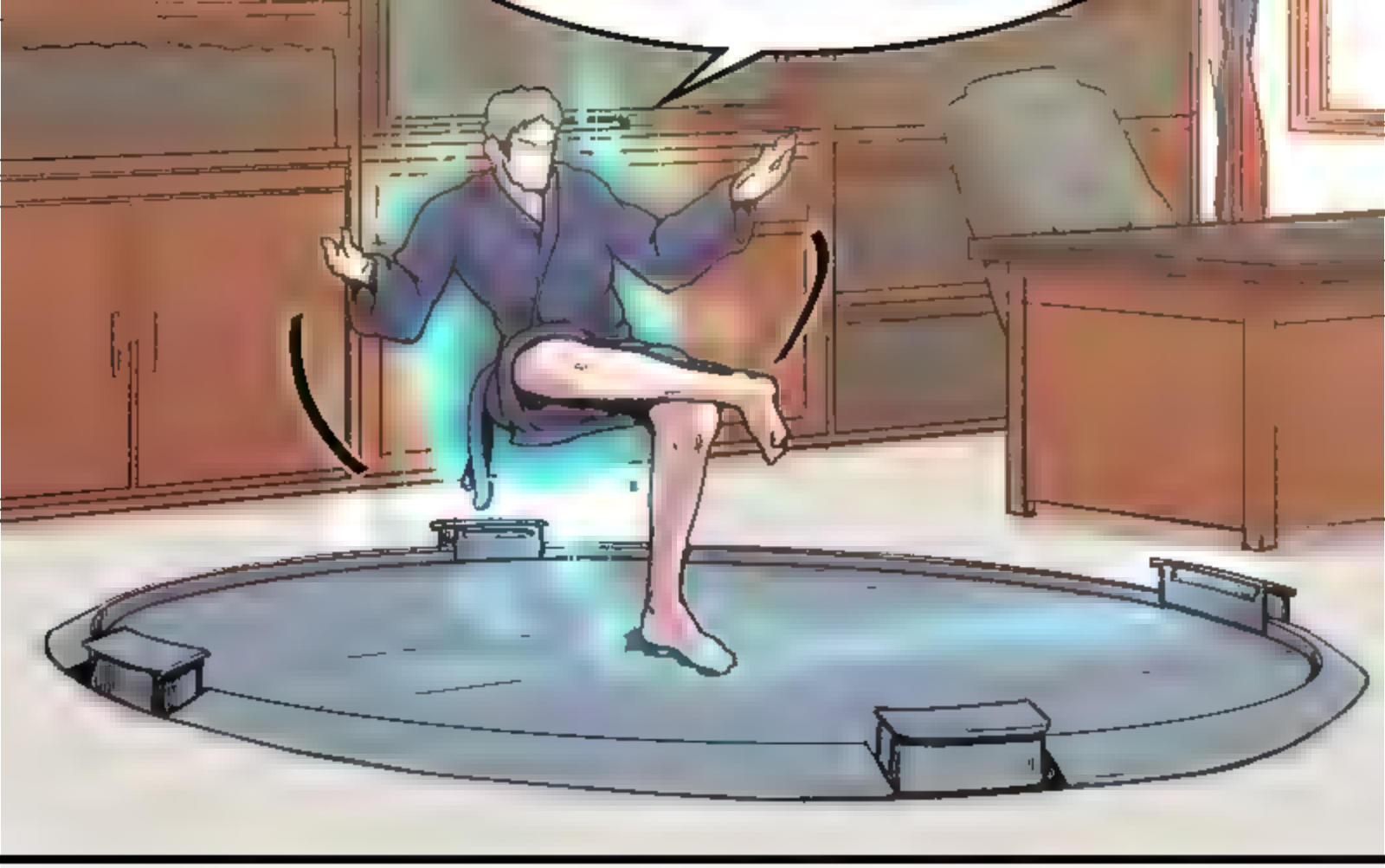

NOW, THANKS TO US, WARS BETWEEN THESE COUNTRIES WILL NO LONGER RESULT IN ANY HUMAN CASUALTIES.

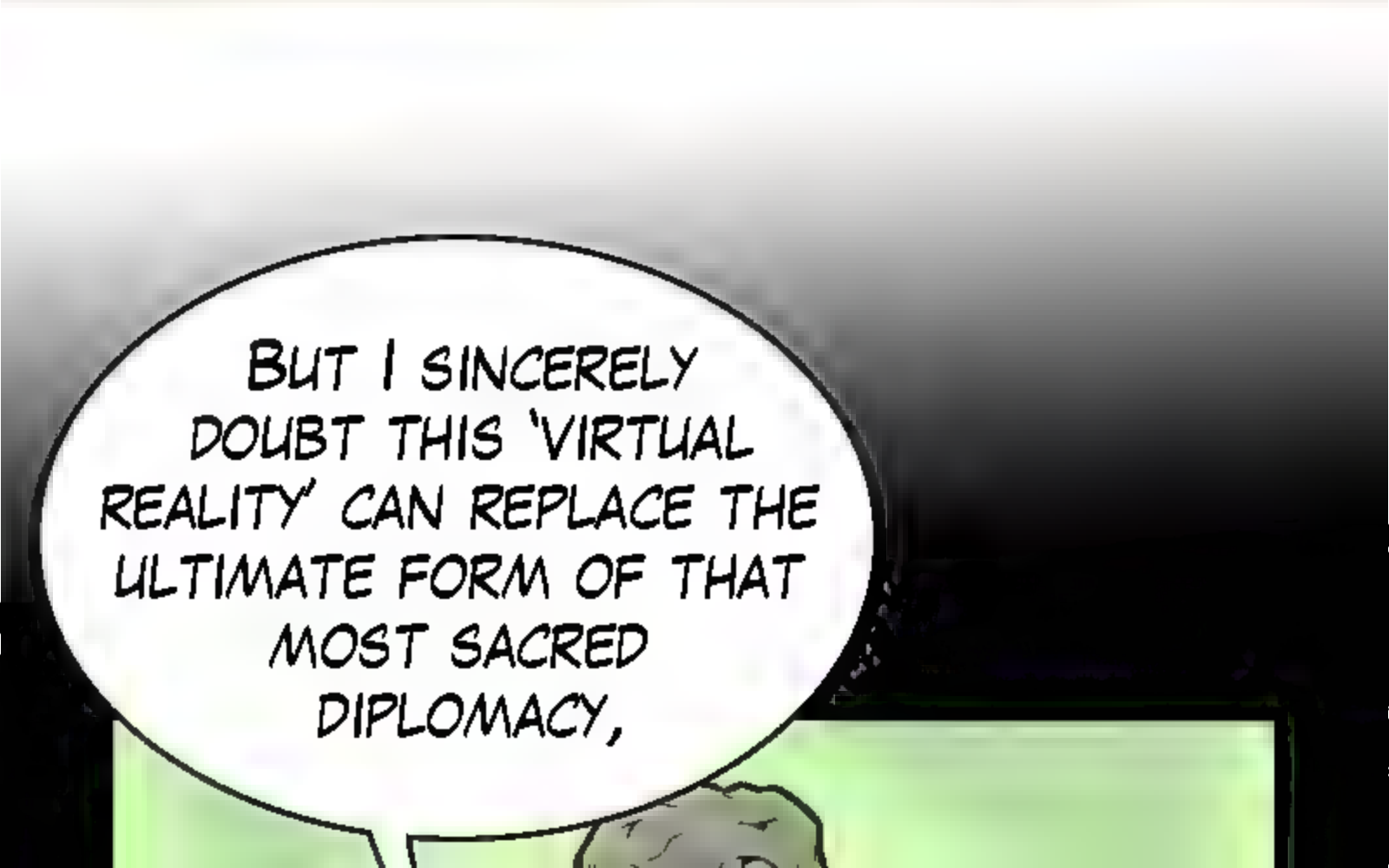
HA! ENLIGHTEN ME, MR. COLLINS--

--WHY I SHOULD AGREE TO MAKE MOTHER RUSSIA JOIN IN YOUR SILLY VIDEO GAMES?

MR. COLLINS,
I APPRECIATE YOUR
VIRTURON. I REALLY DO.

A MAGNIFICENT INVENTION! IT IS EVERYWHERE IN RUSSIA NOW.
BECAUSE OF IT, WE COULD ALL HAVE THIS MEETING REMOTELY!




BUT I SINCERELY DOUBT THIS 'VIRTUAL REALITY' CAN REPLACE THE ULTIMATE FORM OF THAT MOST SACRED DIPLOMACY,

WHICH DEVELOPED ALONGSIDE HUMANS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF OUR SPECIES.

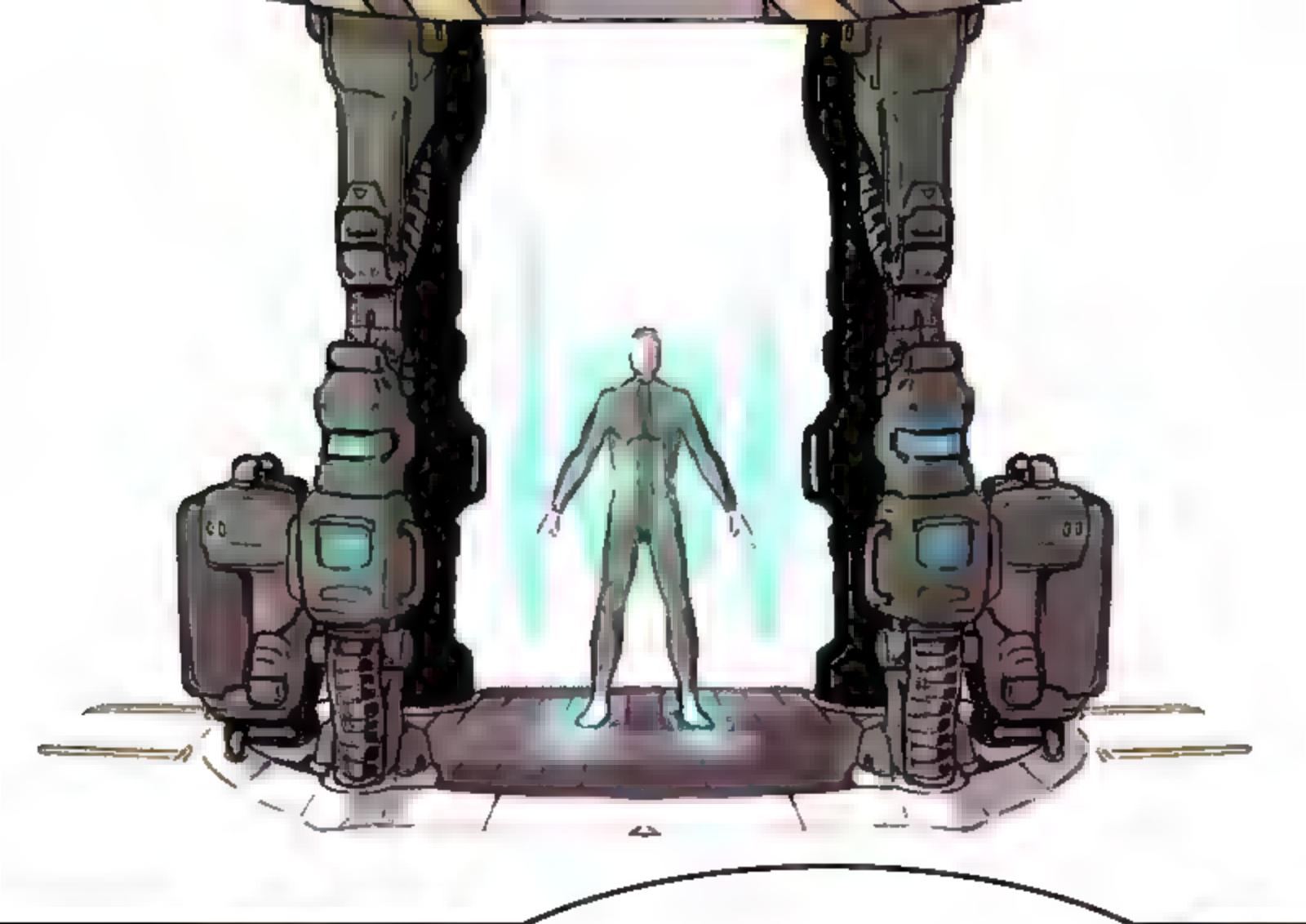
WARS.
AH, YES...
WARS.

I COMPLETELY

understand your concerns, President Volkov.

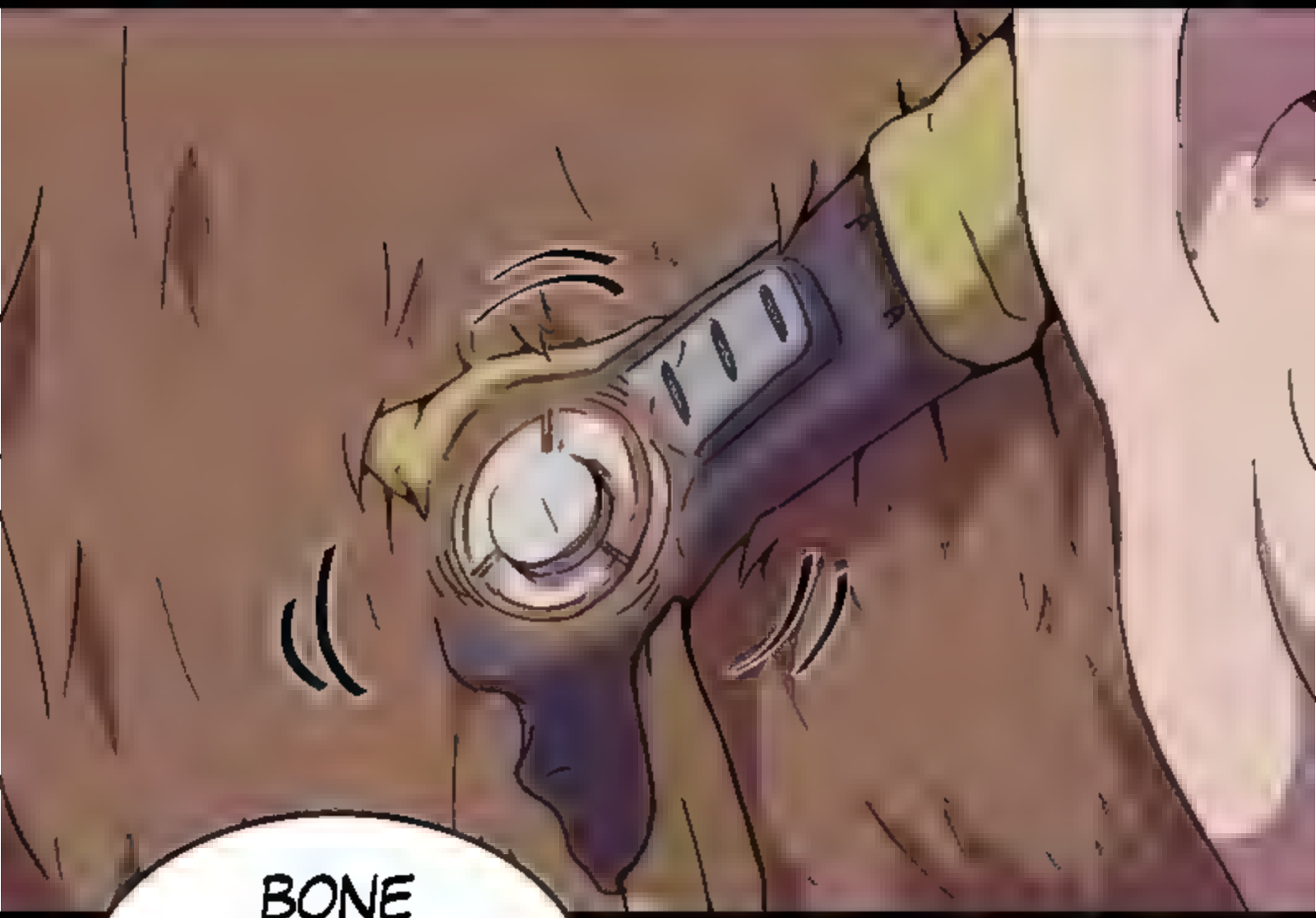
However, the military grade Virturon is extraordinary.

AS YOU KNOW, THE VIRTURON IS A REAL-TIME VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT CONSTRUCTION SYSTEM.



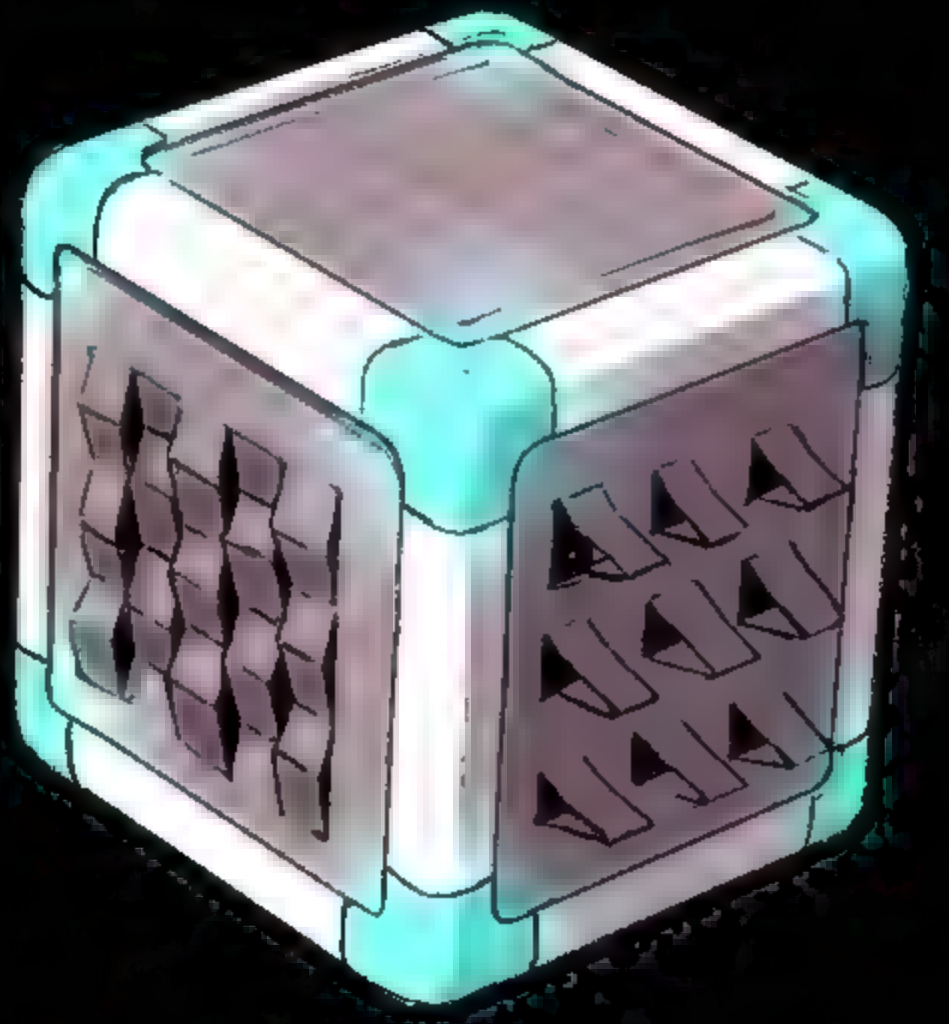
It automatically works with few other devices.

FOR INSTANCE, OUR UNIQUE VR/AR-COMPATIBLE CONTACT LENSES,

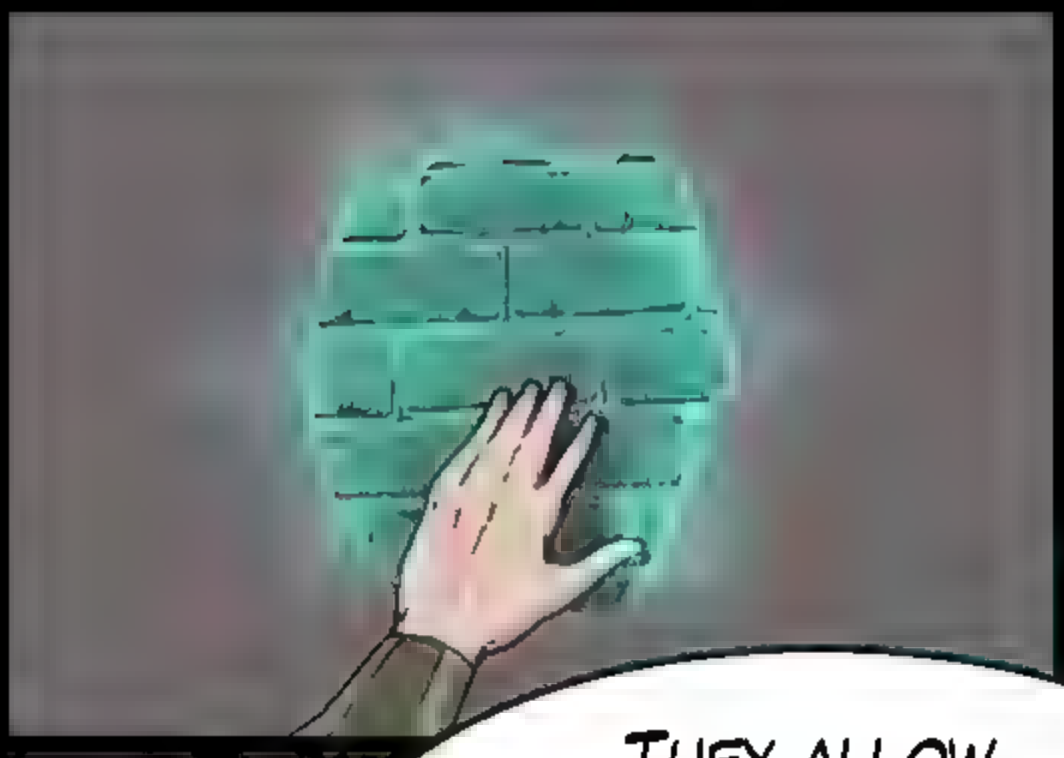

BONE CONDUCTION SPEAKERS,
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, OUR PATENTED ORDA REAL-TIME BRAIN-WAVE SCANNERS

WHICH COLLABORATE WITH VIRTURON'S SENSOR CONTROL UNIT TO SEEMLESSLY PREDICT THE USER'S NEXT MOVE AND ADAPT THE SIMULATION

ACCORDINGLY.



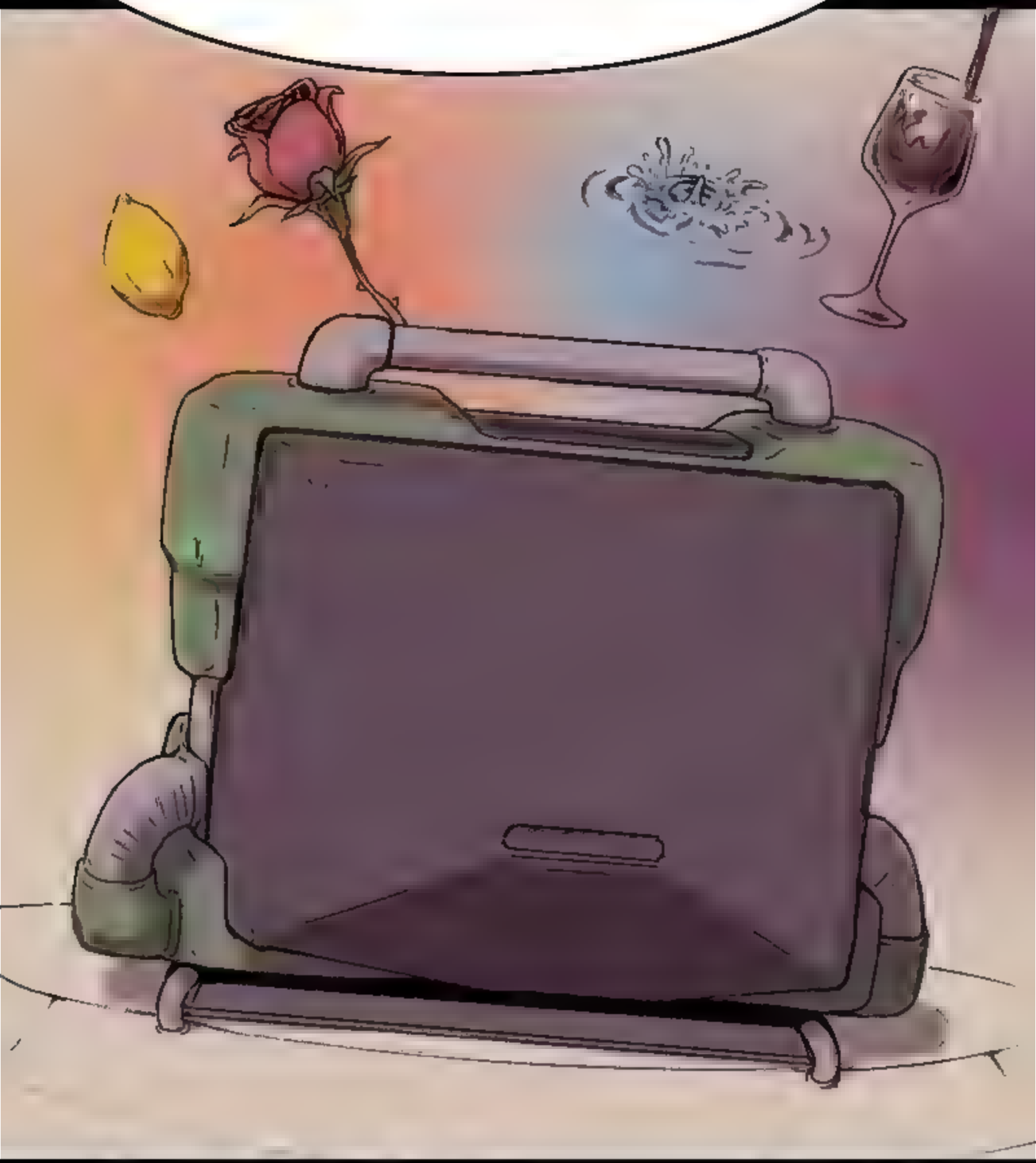
A CONVENTIONAL VIRTURON HAS AROUND 3 MILLION TINY SENSORS IT USES TO REPLICATE ANY ENVIRONMENT.



THEY ALLOW YOU TO FEEL THE SHAPE, TEXTURE, TEMPERATURE,

ODOR AND EVEN TASTE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS, ASSUMING THE PROPER CHEMICALS ARE

THE PROPER CHEMICALS ARE LOADED IN THE CARTRIDGE.



THE MILITARY-GRADE VIRTURON IS LOADED WITH AN EXTRA 2 MILLION SENSORS
TO PERFECTLY REPLICATE THE DETAILS OF ANY PROPS OR GEAR A SOLDIER

could interact with.

In addition,
it comes with two
huge supplemental
cartridge boxes

THAT CAN BE REFILLED EVEN WHILE IT IS BEING OPERATED, SO THE SOLDIERS CAN FULLY FOCUS ON THE BATTLE WITHOUT LOGGING OFF FOR DAYS, WEEKS, EVEN MONTHS.

FROM THE OUTSIDE IT MIGHT LOOK RIDICULOUS,
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

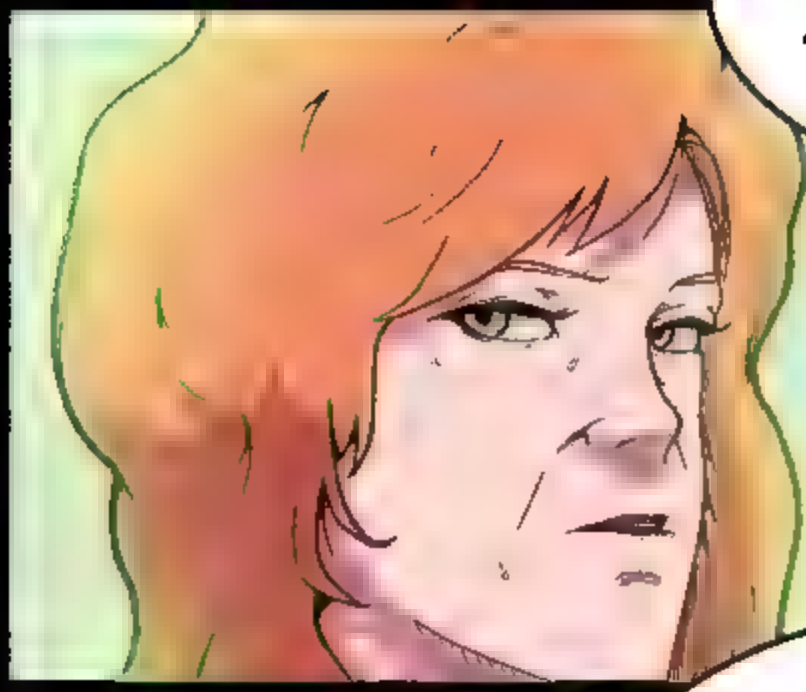
BUT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PERSON IN IT,
IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME AS A REAL BATTLEFIELD.

КЗННН!

MR. COLLINS,

WE UNDERSTAND ALL THAT -- THIS MEETING FEELS REAL RIGHT NOW, TOO.

BUT WHAT IF SOLDIERS GET INJURED DURING A WAR?



IS THE PAIN THE SAME AS IN THE REAL WORLD?

DO YOUR SENSORS REPLICATE THAT TOO?

VERY GOOD QUESTION, PRIME MINISTER BENNETT!

If a soldier gets injured,
HMPH
HMPH
They won't feel the pain

--THAT WOULD BE INHUMANE--
SHIT !!
I CAN'T MOVE AT ALL !

BUT THEIR MOVEMENT AND RANGE OF MOTION WILL BE RESTRICTED ACCORDINGLY.

IN ORDER TO GET RID OF THE MOVEMENT

THE SOLDIERS
THAT ARE NONLETHALLY
INJURED

MUST FINISH THEIR
VIRTUAL REHABILITATION

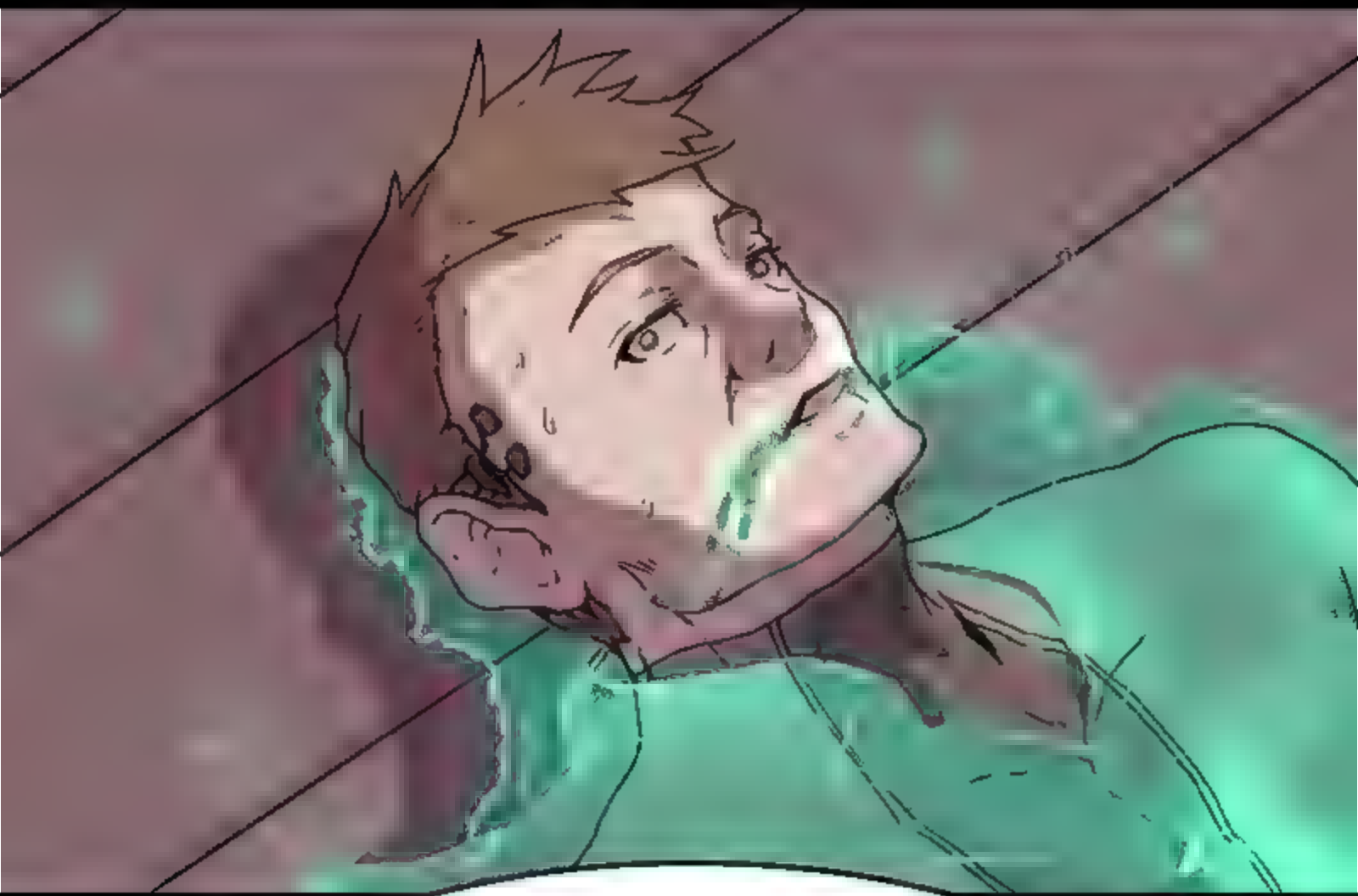
AFTER THE PROPER VIRTUAL TREATMENTS--

--ALL BASED ON ACTUAL HUMAN BIOLOGY, OF COURSE--

--EVEN THOUGH THEIR BODY PARTS ARE STILL COMPLETELY INTACT IN REAL LIFE.

BEEP
DEAD
IF A SOLDIER IS

CATASTROPHICALLY INJURED AND 'DIES' IN-SYSTEM,



THEY ARE

SIMPLY DISCHARGED.

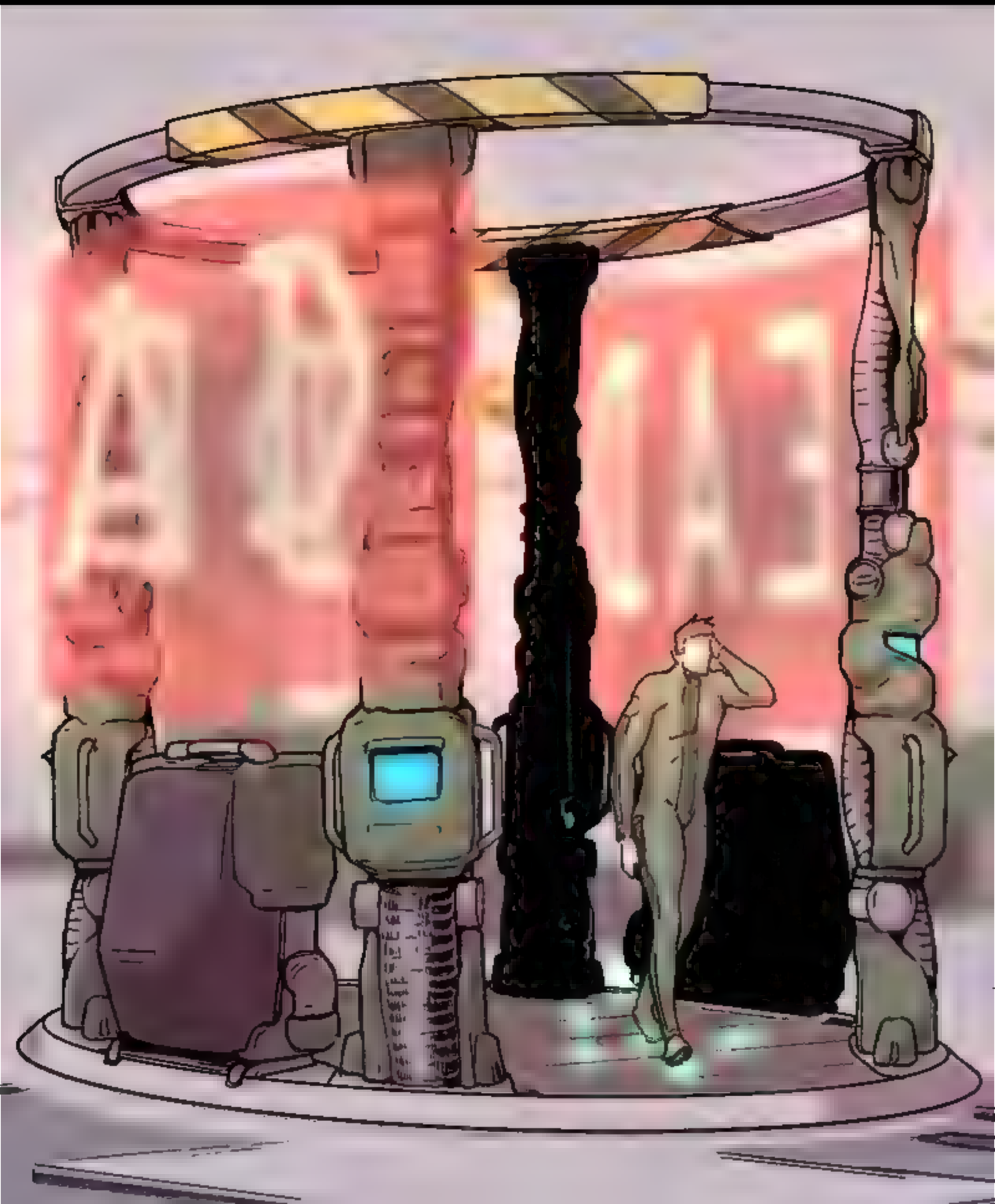
You died from excessive bleeding.

Disconnecting
from the server.
DISCONNECTING ...

Thank you for your service, Sergeant C. Rowland. Farewell.
AND PERMANENTLY BANNED FROM ANY AND ALL 'WAR' SERVERS.

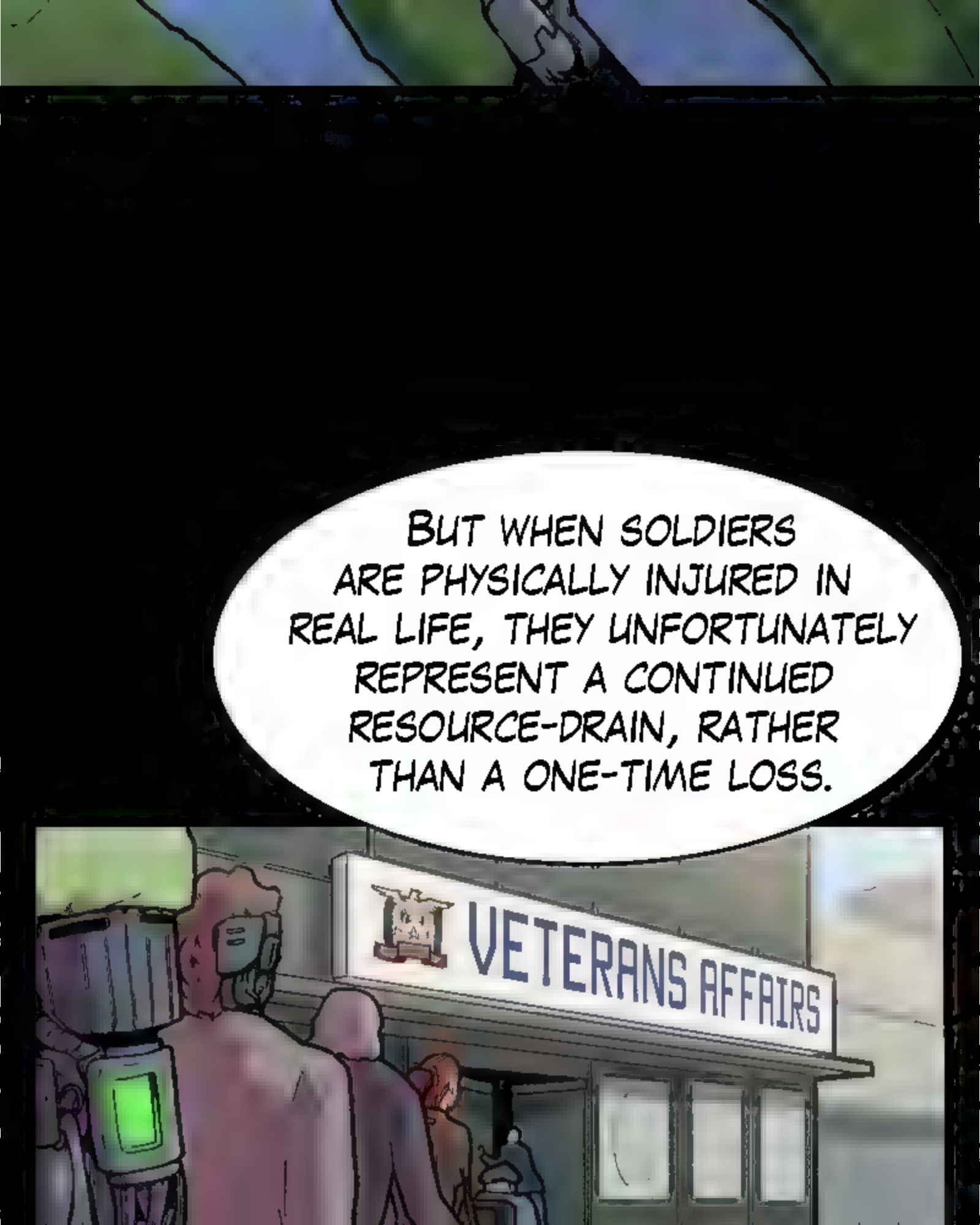
Any future attemps to log in to the WWA server will result in a severe fine or up to twenty years of jail time.

BLOODY IDIOT!

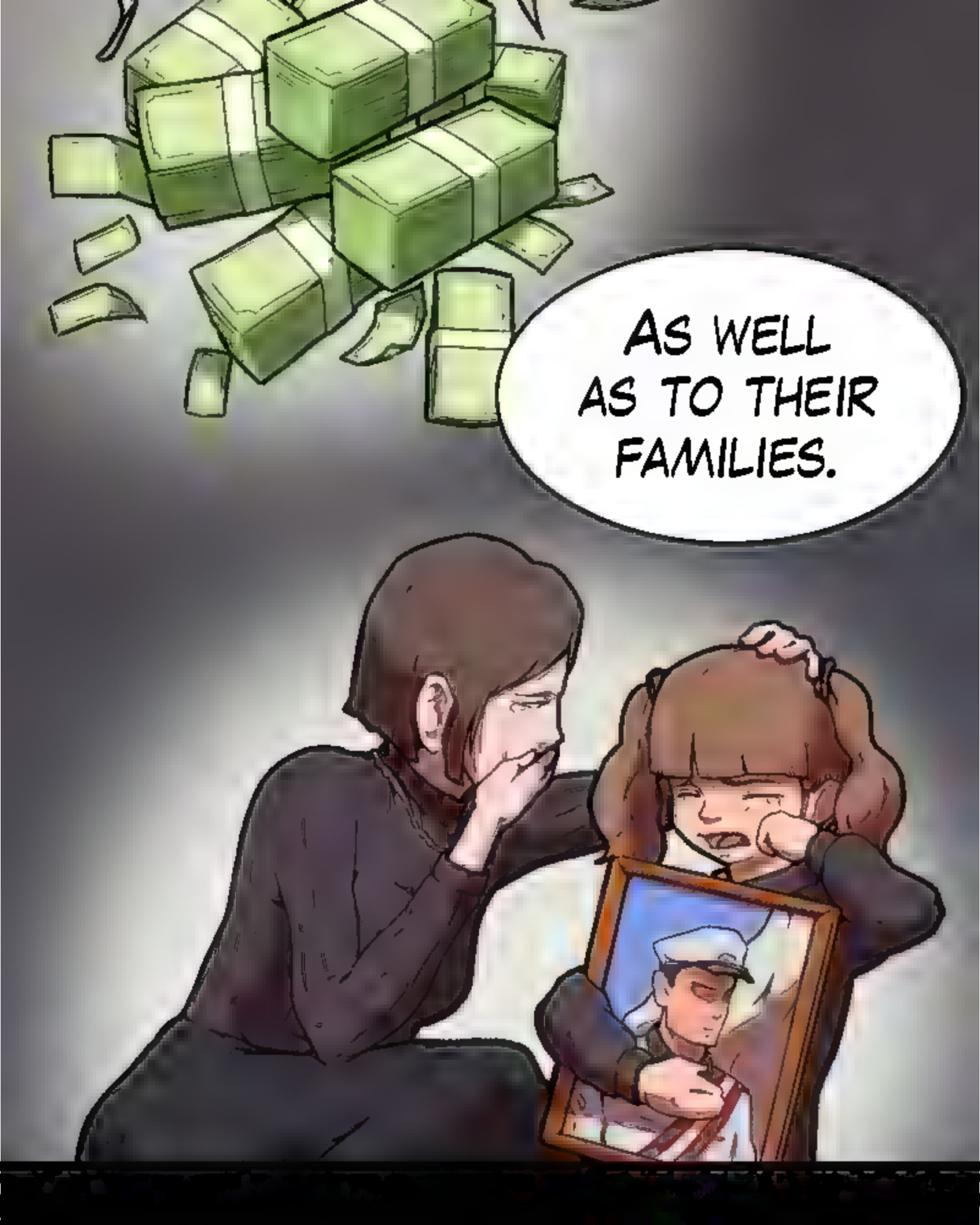


SOLDIERS WHO
ARE INJURED IN WARS
-- PHYSICAL OR VIRTUAL --
REPRESENT A MAJOR LOSS
ON INVESTMENT FOR
THEIR NATIONS.

SURELY, THEY ARE VERY PROUD INDIVIDUALS WHO GIVE LIFE AND LIMBS FOR THEIR COUNTRIES, AND WORTH EVERY PENNY OF INVESTMENT IN THEIR WELFARE.


BUT WHEN SOLDIERS ARE PHYSICALLY INJURED IN REAL LIFE, THEY UNFORTUNATELY REPRESENT A CONTINUED RESOURCE-DRAIN, RATHER THAN A ONE-TIME LOSS.
VETERANS AFFAIRS

AS TRAGIC AS THEY ARE, REAL-LIFE LARGE-SCALE DEATHS AND INJURIES STRAIN THE ECONOMY AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF ANY NATION.
NOT TO MENTION THE DAMAGE DONE TO CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES,


AS WELL AS TO THEIR FAMILIES.

ALLOWING WAR TO CONTINUE IN ITS CURRENT FORM ISN'T IN ANYONE'S BEST INTEREST.
SOLDIERS WOULD CERTAINLY RATHER NOT ACTUALLY LOSE THEIR LEGS,

AND GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE RELIEVED TO NOT HAVE TO PAY OUT THE SOLDIERS' WELFARE FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES.

IF YOU JOIN OUR 'BLOODLESS WARS,'
WE CAN ALL

PROFIT.

BAH, RUSSIA WILL NOT JUST AGREE TO THE DIGITALIZATION OF WARS AFTER LISTENING TO YOUR SALES PITCH.
YOU DESCRIBE ONLY THE POSITIVES!

How can these 'wars' possibly be 'fair' and reflect different countries' different military might and economic influence--
--if they happen in a virtual world?

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, PRESIDENT VOLKOV...
...I NEVER SAID WAR IN THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD BE FREE.

IF YOU MEAN
WE'LL HAVE TO PAY
THE SERVER MAINTENANCE
COST, PLEASE DO NOT WORRY.
THAILAND IS WILLING TO COVER
THAT FOR ALL NATIONS.

I AM AFRAID TO SAY THIS, PRIME MINISTER TIMKUN,

BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY THE ACTUAL CURRENT STANDARD AMOUNT FOR ALL COSTS OF OPERATING YOUR ARMY.

I BEG YOUR PARDON? AREN'T THEY JUST LINES OF CODES IN THE SYSTEM?

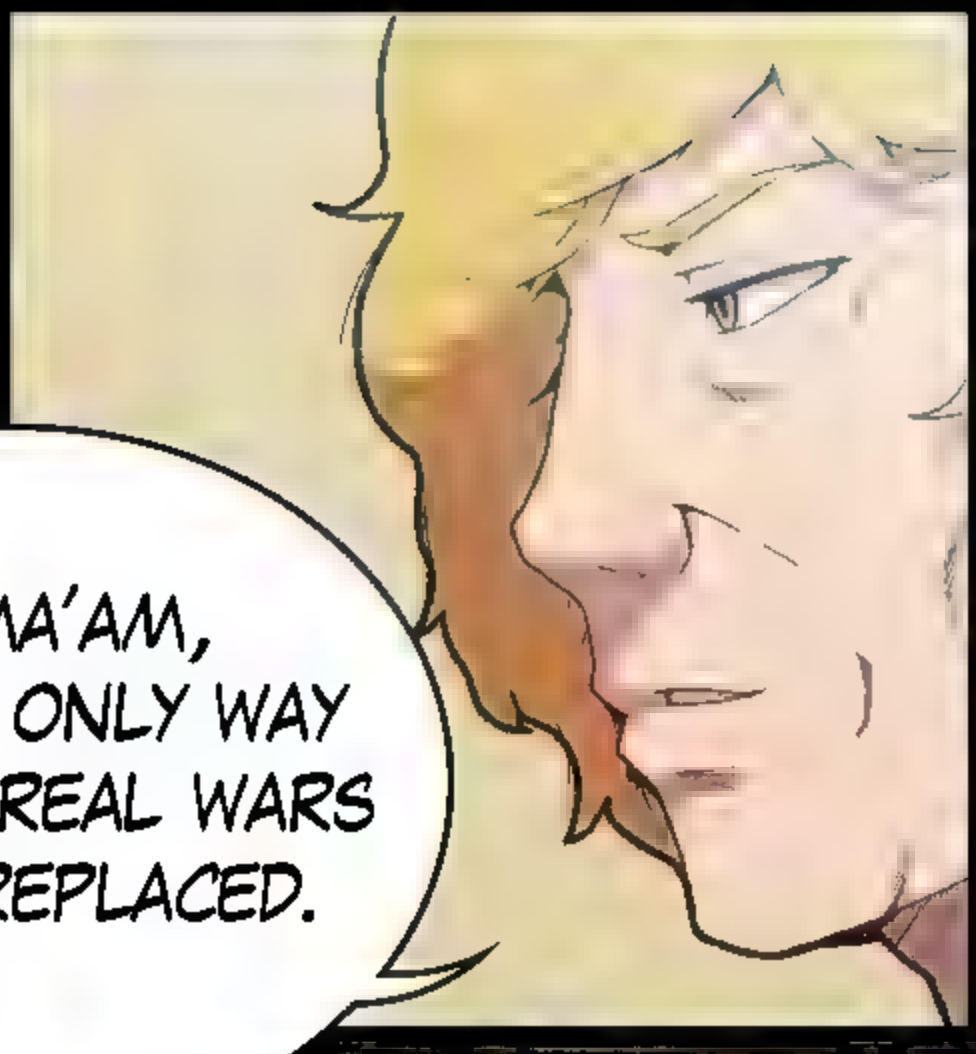
HOW CAN IT POSSIBLY COST AS MUCH AS THE ACTUAL AMOUNT FOR THAT?

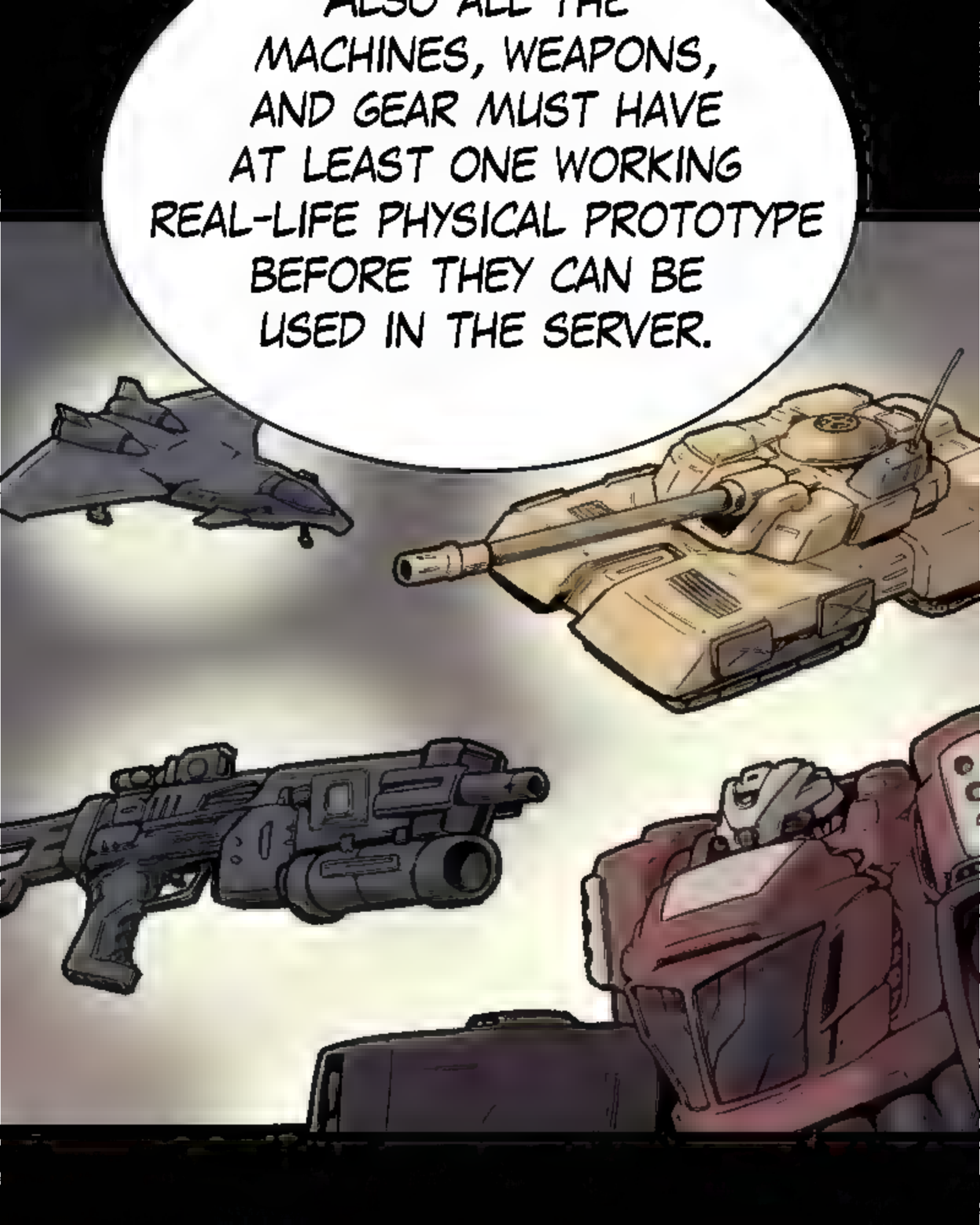
WELL, IT'S

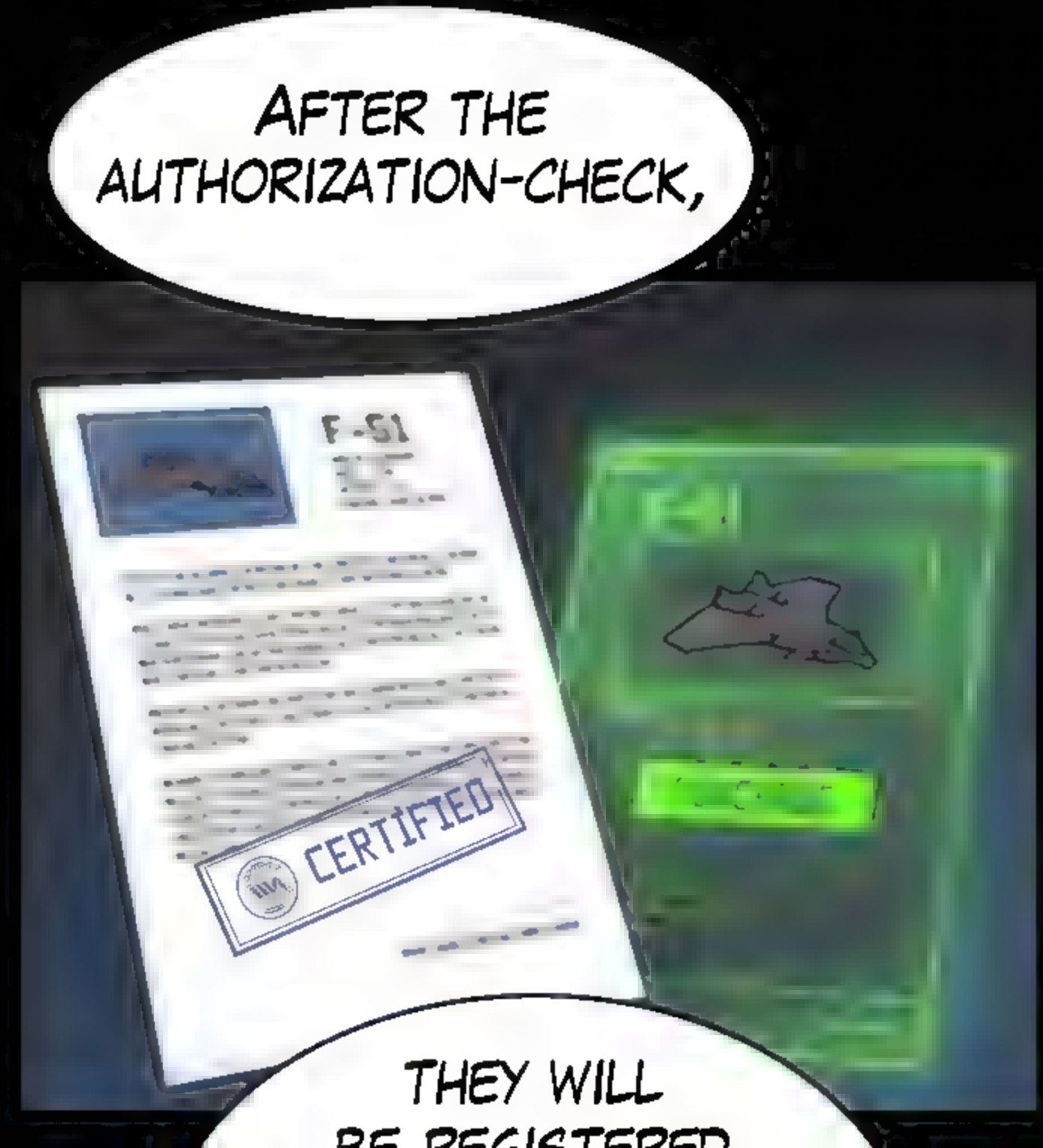
WELL, IT'S NOT JUST THAT.
THE LOSING COUNTRY WILL ALSO HAVE TO PAY ANY RECONSTRUCTION FEES FOR THE DAMAGED BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS WAR REPARATIONS.

WHAT?!
NONSENSE!

OH, SO THE NATURAL LIMIT OF ACTUAL RESOURCES WOULD PREVENT ANYONE FROM ABUSING THESE 'BLOODLESS WARS'.

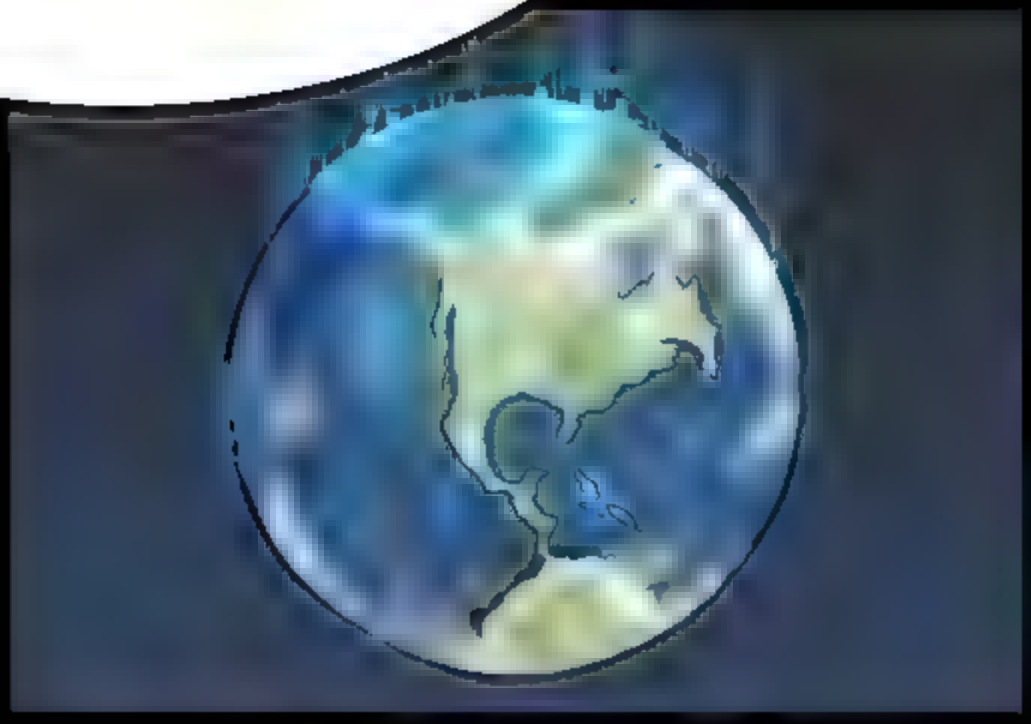

YES MA'AM,
IT IS THE ONLY WAY
THAT THE REAL WARS
CAN BE REPLACED.


ALSO ALL THE
MACHINES, WEAPONS,
AND GEAR MUST HAVE
AT LEAST ONE WORKING
REAL-LIFE PHYSICAL PROTOTYPE
BEFORE THEY CAN BE
USED IN THE SERVER.


AFTER THE AUTHORIZATION-CHECK,
F-51
CERTIFIED
THEY WILL

BE REGISTERED IN THE SYSTEM AS ONE OF THE MANY KINDS OF ITEMS THAT CAN BE PURCHASED.

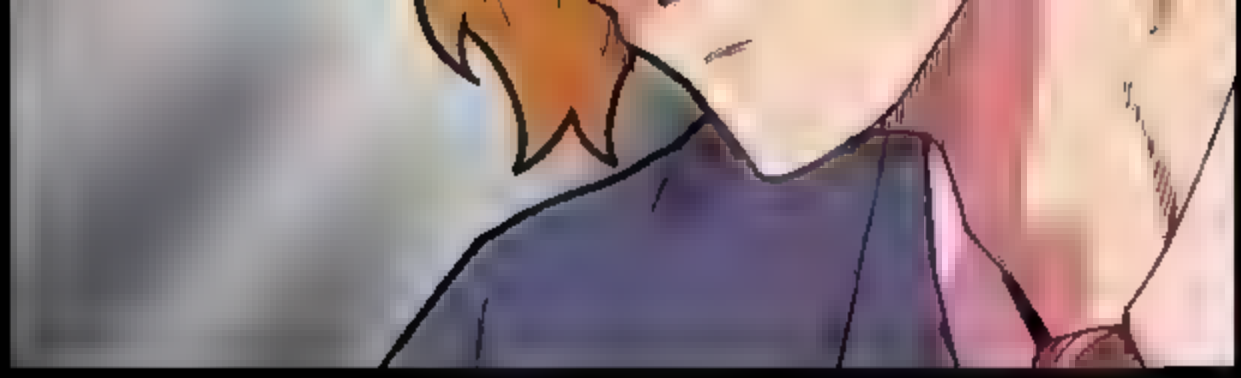
AS A RESULT, THE WARS WILL BE LIMITED TO THE ACTUAL ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND MILITARY POWER OF REAL LIFE.



SO ALL THOSE FUNDS ARE GOING DIRECTLY TO ORDA, MR. COLLINS?

I'M BEGINNING TO SEE HOW THIS PENCILS OUT FOR YOU AND YOUR COMPANY.

OH, NO, PLEASE FORGIVE ME, PRESIDENT VOLKOV. I SHOULD'VE MADE IT CLEAR BEFORE.

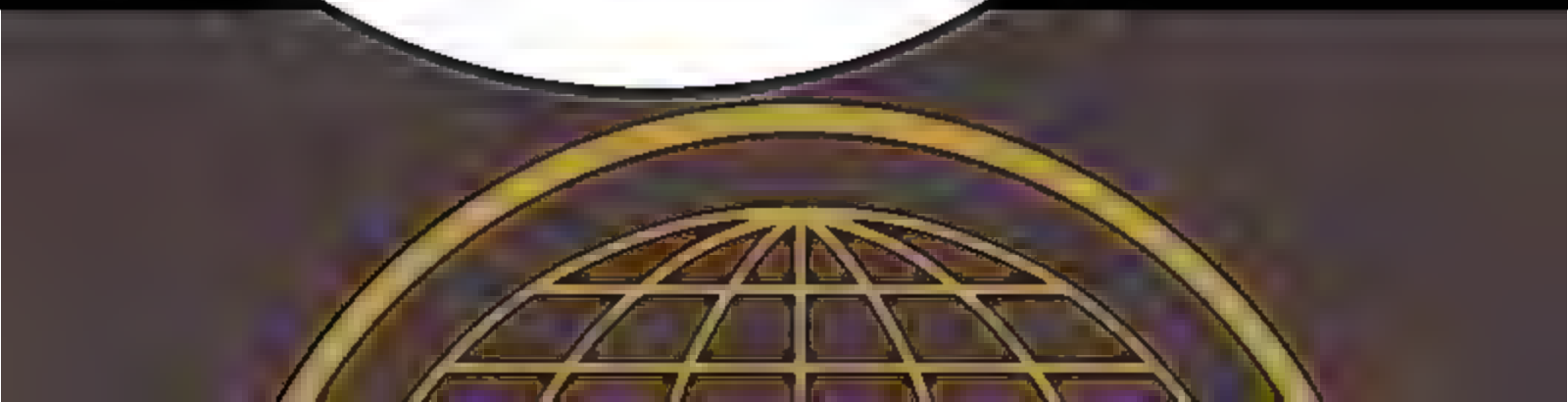


I AM HERE TO PROMISE YOU, THAT BESIDES SUPPORTING CONSTRUCTION OF THE VIRTURON BARRACKS,

ORDA

'ORDA' WILL NEVER, EVER HAVE INFLUENCE OF ANY KIND ON FUNDS OR DATA RELATED TO THE 'BLOODLESS WARS.'

ALL THE DATA, INCLUDING NATIONAL BUDGETS, MILITARY MIGHT, WEAPON TECHNOLOGIES AND CURRENT STATUS OF SIMULATED CITES



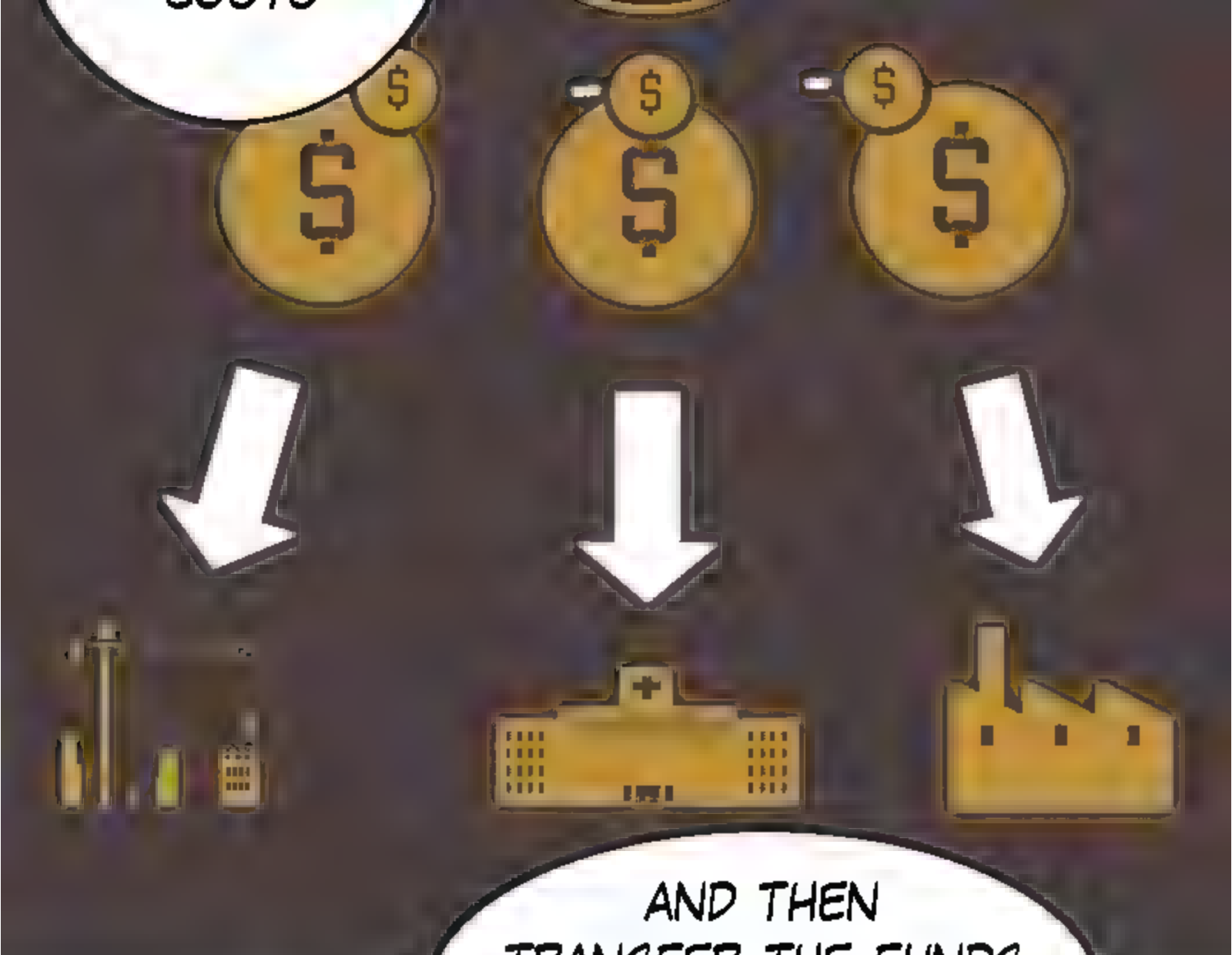
World War Administration

WILL BE MANAGED BY THE 'WWA', THE 'WORLD WAR ADMINISTRATION', WHICH WILL BE RUN BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE COUNTRIES WHO AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE 'BLOODLESS

WARS'.

ONCE THEY RECEIVE PAYMENTS,

THEY WILL TAKE A SMALL FEE TO COVER THEIR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS


AND THEN TRANSFER THE FUNDS WHERE THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO GO.

HMM.. THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO PREVENT HACKING?
THE WWA PLANS TO MANAGE VERY SENSITIVE AND VALUABLE INFORMATION.

I ASSUME YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF A HACKER BECOMING A BILLIONAIRE BY CRACKING A CRYPTO-CURRENCY.
PONG
THAT'S BECAUSE

'BLOCKCHAIN'--

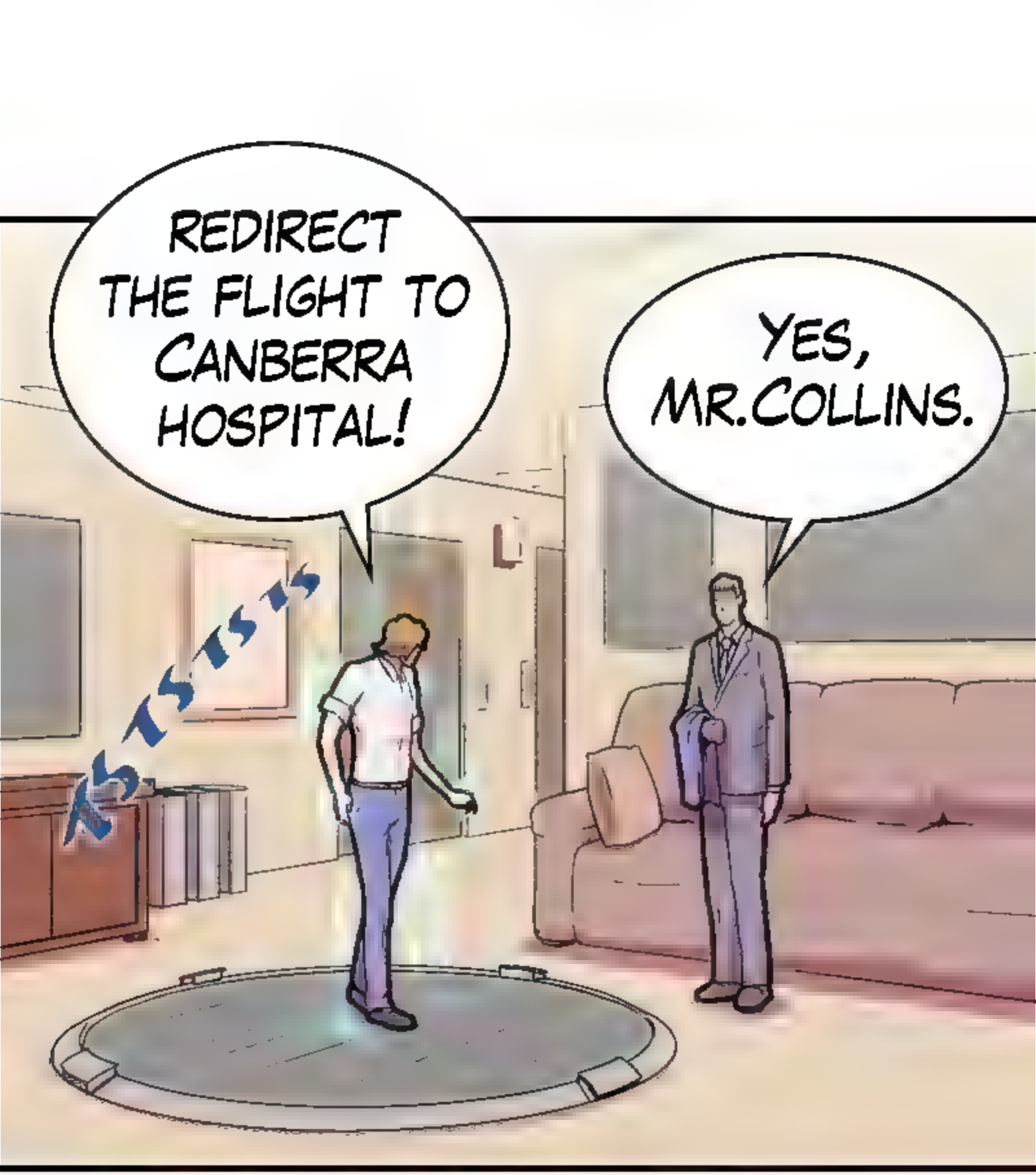
MR. COLLINS!
WE HAVE A SITUATION!
THE LEADER OF 'ORCAS T-1'
WAS JUST--

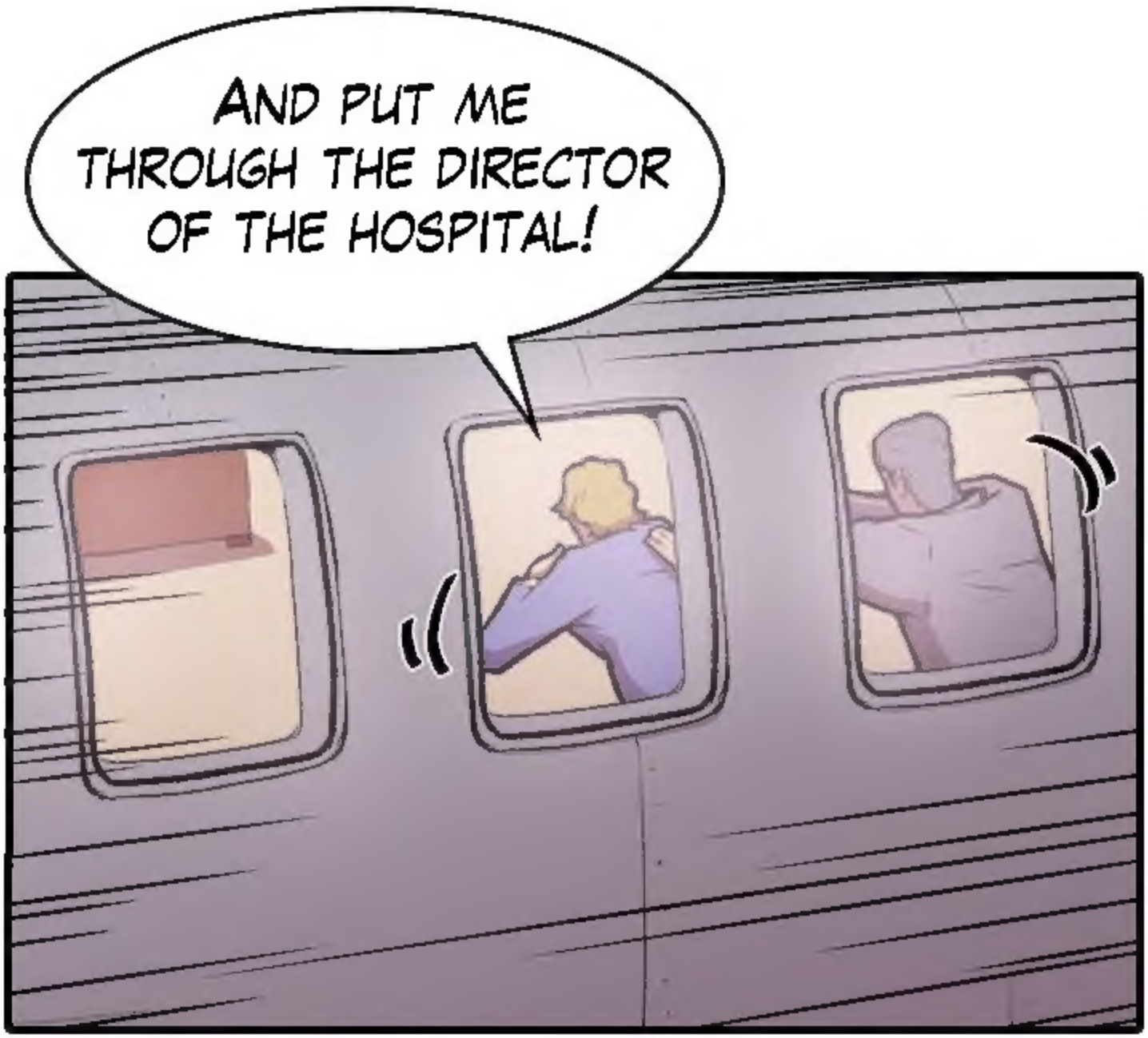
PLEASE EXCUSE ME, I'LL TURN THE MIC OVER TO SOMEONE MORE QUALIFIED TO ANSWER FROM HERE ON OUT.

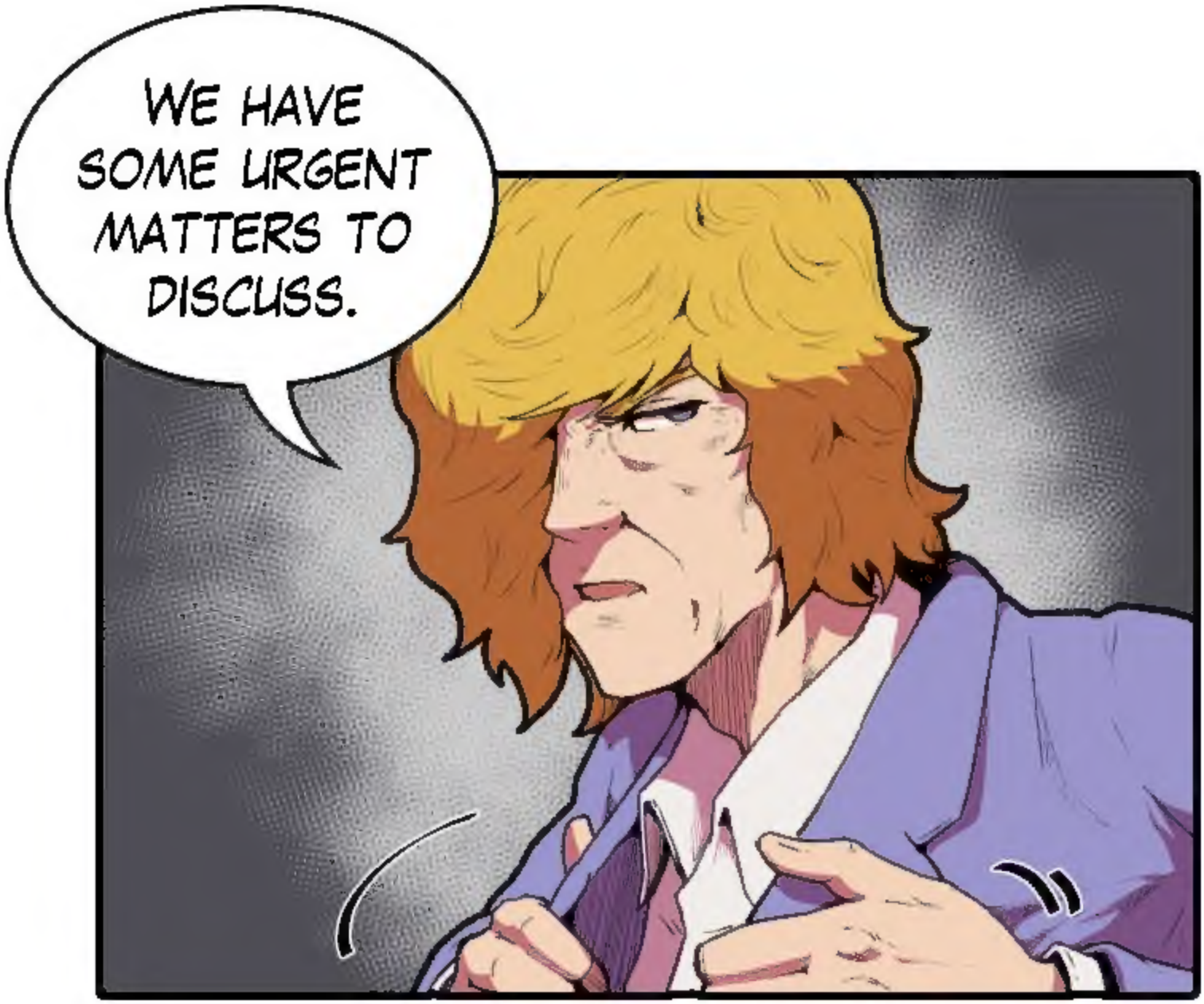
PLEASE WELCOME, CURRENT WWA REPRESENTATIVE, MR. LINDBERG!
STEP
STEP

LOGGING OFF!
BEEP
SH

HHHHH
DAN! EMERGENCY PROTOCOL!


REDIRECT THE FLIGHT TO CANBERRA HOSPITAL!
YES, MR.COLLINS.


AND PUT ME THROUGH THE DIRECTOR OF THE HOSPITAL!



To be continued

IF YOU
WANT TO ACCESS
EXTRA CONTENTS OF
'BLOODLESS WARS'
& ITS CREATOR,
PLEASE FOLLOW!
@legendoftovon
Tovon